



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

in hand promises to rank among the foremost of them. The very completeness of the book is perhaps the strongest argument in its favor.

Among other things, it includes a brief notation of every decision printed since the enactment of the law of 1898, down to March 15, 1903. To this end, a careful search has been made with the result that over a hundred and fifty cases have been found and digested, not now found in any series of reports devoted to bankruptcy decisions.

In citing a case, references are always given to all the various reports in which each case is reported—a convenience which speaks for itself. Furthermore, the court, district and the date of the case have been given, so that the lawyer can see at a glance whether a case has been decided and is controlling in his district and circuit.

Another feature not found in any other work of the kind, is a list of the judicial officers of the courts of bankruptcy, a list that has been much in demand.

Many other new and commendable features might be mentioned, but suffice it to say that the work is a complete one in every respect, and while its very completeness causes many sections to cross and overlap one another, still it is so well paragraphed and thoroughly indexed that a reference to any topic is the matter of but a moment, and we predict for it an extensive sale.

PRESUMPTIONS OF LAW AND OF FACT AS AFFECTING THE BURDEN OF PROOF IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES, INCLUDING INNOCENCE, NEGLIGENCE, DOMICILE, COMITY, POSSESSION, PAYMENT, etc. By WILLIS REED BIERLY, Esq., Lycoming County Bar, Author of "Taxation and Liens," "Administrators and Guardians," "Executors, Wills and Trustees," etc. Pp. xxx+102. Erie, Pa.: Herald Printing and Publishing Company. 1902.

The above is the last addition to the author's well-known "Hand-Book Series." These handy reference books have met with a warm reception by the lawyers and judges of Pennsylvania, for their conciseness and accuracy. A feature is that the author keeps them up to date by *addenda* referring to page and paragraph without extra charge for this valuable addition of the latest decisions and Acts of Assembly.

The above volume on Presumptions is the first law book published in the United States treating specifically upon this important subject.

In it, the author has striven to collect the principles and decisions concerning the doctrine of presumptions, scattered

through the text-books on evidence and digests into a concisely classified form.

Presumptions figure so conspicuously in every trial, that this convenient book, with its very full table of cases cited as authority, should prove of inestimable value to the busy practitioner.

R. B. W.

LYONS' COMMERCIAL LAW. A Text-book for Schools and Colleges and a Book of Reference. By J. A. LYONS, formerly a Member of the Chicago Bar. Pp. 252. Chicago and New York: Powers & Lyons. 1902.

This work is a brief exposition of the subject it purports to set forth. There is an introduction containing divers legal definitions, a chapter of three pages which tells all about property, both real and personal and how it may be held, in severalty, joint-tenancy and tenancy in common; then follow nine chapters dealing with the subject of contracts. We next have discussed: Negotiable Instruments, Guaranty and Suretyship, Sale of Personal Property, Bailment, Agency, Partnership, Corporations, Insurance and Real Estate.

These voluminous subjects of law are treated in two hundred and twenty-eight pages. The definitions, explanations and maxims are accurate as far as they go. They are as clear as could be expected with such meagre treatment.

It is very doubtful whether such a book will be of service to the law or help those who are to use it with no further insight into the subject. A good lawyer, or even student of law, who enters into the pursuit thereof seriously, knows that law is no subject which can be studied in such an incomplete manner, viz: glibly memorizing some definitions, unintelligible to a youth in his teens, and only reading enough of the subject to get a smattering and as a consequence an entirely incorrect conception of it.

This book is to be used in teaching commercial branches and is to be placed in the hands of children twelve years of age and upwards, the teacher in many instances having no more knowledge of the subject than what he has derived from perusing similar works. "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing" and the effect of such a book in the hands of those who will use it, will be to puff them up with the idea that they are lawyers of eminent legal ability. It generally proves to be the case that in proportion as one is ignorant of a subject, the more he thinks he knows, and the more one knows the more he is impressed with the incompleteness of his knowledge. It therefore seems that a book of this sort will do great harm, coming as it will into the hands of those immature and incapable of understanding what they read. They will undertake to give counsel to